APPEAL

TO THE FRIENDS OF TEMPERANCE In Washington, FOR UNION AND CONCERT OF ACTION,

JUNIOR ORDER OF RECHABITES.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TENT. (ISLAND,)

Having learned that an eminent friend of Temperature rance had appealed to a member of our Order to unite in an effort to revive the cause of Temperano in the city-which had called forth a letter in reply giving his view of the said cause, present and past appointed the undersigned a committee to ask per-mission to publish the same. This permission was readily granted, and we hereto annex it. It will be found to contain matters of deep interest to this community-matters which ought to be known to alland especially pondered upon by the friends of Tem-perance, of good order, and of religion. Let no one be deterred by its length from reading it through. We are also directed to publish the following reso-

lutions, which have been adopted, to carry out, a far as we can, the views suggested in said letter. 1. Resolved, That a memorial to the Mayor be circulated for signatures, praying h in to grant no license for the retail of intoxicating liquors, without requiring the applicant of said license to post up, in

two conspicuous places, the certificates of the six freeholders, and the recommendation of the majority of the white housekeepers on the square, with al names of the freeholders and housekeepers therein, countersigned by the Commissioner of Improvements, for at least two weeks, to afford the inhabi tants of the locality time to investigate the same, and know who it is that recommends said tavern o

2d. Resolved, That we will cordially unite in hold ing public meetings, and in all suitable ways use our best exertions to persuade our fellow-citizens to abandon the use of all intoxicating fliquor as a bev-

H. B. NOBLE, J. R. THOMPSON, F. M. BRADLEY, Washington, October 7, 1857.

F. M. BRADLEY,
Committee.
Washington, October 7, 1857.

To George Savaer, Esq.

Sire: Since the general conversation I had with you a few days ago in regard to the present state of the Temperance question in this city—and the causes which have operated to produce the change in public opinion ou that subject within the last five or six years, I have been led to reflect seriously and anxiously on the subject. And the more I have thought, the least I am satisfied with myself in the retrospection. At every step, I see more and more plainly, that humble as I am, I have not done my own duty, and that I must to the extent of all that I could and might have dene, and have failed to do to prevent it, take my full share of the blame and the shanne, of the change which has, at least, apparently come ever the people of the city.

But the first question which arises and presses upon the mind, is: Has the change, which appears so manifest, in point of fact, really taken place? Is not the real opinion and deliberate judgment of the people of Washington, at this moment, as strongly and decidedly, aquanat the habit and practice of drinking indoceaning liquors as it was five vears ago? And if so, why the apparent difference which has struck you, as it has others, with so much concern?

I do not know that any effort of mine can aid in answering these questions, but it is time that something was done by somebody, to rouse the city from the criminal apathy and indifference, which now prevails, and to stay the tide of intemperance which now sweeps over it. There are amongst us hearts and minds able to do it, if they can be united and stimulated to action. But how can this be done, and who will undertake it? To case, somewhat, my own experience in connexion with the cause, my recollection of chings as they were and as they exist sow, hoping thereby to procoke other and abler men to renew their labors of love.

My first councetion with the Temperance cause was in Kentucky, about the year leady was more closely and seriously drawn to t

it a solemn duty to take an open, selle stand on this question, and as far as I could, give my influence and example in favor of Temperance.

Soon after this, I found myself associated in my public employments with two noble generous-hearted men—who after a long habit of moderate drinking—the december of the tween and places of drinking, to which they were accustomed to resort, and was talked of there. To avoid observation, these places were deserted, or visited less frequently, and they took to the more obscure and less reputable grog shops. There, they imagined they could more safely and freely indulge their appetite for strong drink, and seesage the notice of those whose good opinion it was their interest to maintain. Vain Hope! They hid their, drinking from the public ere. But the witness against them appeared in their blotched faces, in their termulous nerves, and more especially in the wretch-schees of their own families; and soon, the heads of the bureau to which they were attached began to talk about it. I saw that roin was before them, and they saw it. This round my strength of the habit which had power thus to force intelligent, respectable men to degradation and shams. Moved by this spectacle, I counselled and warned them as plainly and faithfully as I could. With tears of bitterness they confessed the whole and told me I had not heard the half. Oh! how they wept over the agonies of their wives, told me of their entreaties and prayers to them, of the resolutions they had from time to time made; they felt that they could lay down their lives, coin their heart's blood to give peace, comfort and happiness to the dear ones whom God had given them; they could not stand it, but were compelled to run to the grog shop, and appease it! there was neither live or rest without it. Gladly, most eagerly would they fly from it; but there was no refuge, and down—down—to a dishonored grave they must go! they saw it distinctly before them. In this stuntion, whilst they were yet reking with the funnes of alcondon, whil

love and serve his God and his country, according to the dictates of his conscience, with no man to call him in question. This was our Bond of Union and Brotherhood. The question was not, to what political party does he belong, or what are his religious opinions, but does he drink intexicating tipnors, can we save him from that sin? If we can, we shall make him a better, a happier, and a more useful man. Adhering to this fundamental article of our faith, and animated by confidence in the truth and holiness of our mission, we went forward in our work, Men of talent and eloquence sought our midst. We held our meetings, private and public, in the Division Rooms and in the Tents. In our public squares, and in our churches, on the streets and public highways; we held up boldly and affectionately, before our fellow citizens the blessings of Temperance, and the inducements for them to unite with us; and as faithfully we warned them against the vice of intemperance, its sufferings, wretchedness and degradation. We held our public fastivals, and our lengthened processions. Oh, how did my heart bound at the sight of a thousand hardy, study n.en, all clad in the regalia of Temperance, with emblems floating and banners flying in full march through our streets. Truly it was an "army with banners," which to be seen was 1st 2st. Such was the state of things in 1852, the; and to which you called my attention. The public saw it and the proud and the lofty curled the lip and scorned; the city saw that there was honesty, virtue and intellect there, as well as true piety, and they could not look upon it unmoved. The history of the time affords abundant proof of that. Our public men felt and were moved by it; and run palaces, as well as grog shops trembled and tottered, whilst their occupants gnashed their teeth and vented their curses.

The Mayor of the city, Walter Lenox, Esq., felt it his duty to call the attention of the City Councils to the subject in his general message of August 26th, 1852, in the following terms:

"I carnes love and serve his God and his country, according

pend the licenses for a limited time, in cases of a flagrant violation of the law upon the first conviction; and for the sale of liquor without licenses, inflict the severest penalty which the charter will allow. In advance of any general action upon this subject, I invite your immediate attention to the defects of the 2d Section of the Act of October 26, 1819, and the 8th Section of the Act of November 5, 1839, in relation to minura and persons of color." 832, in relation to minors and persons of color."

This was the first official act of decided encourage

This was the first official act of decided encouragement given to the cause of Temperance by any of the authorities of the city. There were members of the Council known to sympathize with us, and some of them went so far as to join us in the public discussions of the subject before the people; but, as a body, they had taken no action on the subject. And it was well known, that great laxity prevailed in the granting of licenses to taverns and grog shops. It was generally understood that forms for these licenses were signed by the Mayor, in blank, and left with the Register, to be filled up by him and delivered to persons who should apply for them, with papers filled up in accordance with the forms required by law. There was still greater laxity in the enforcement of the law for the suppression and restraint of intemperance by the police. The complaints against them were many and lond.

the police. The complaints against them were many and loud.

In view of the facts, the message of the Mayor was hailed as the harbinger of better times, the dawning of a new era in the history of Washington—and the Temperance Army rallied under it. A new energy was infused throughout the ranks in this city, and in Georgetown. In the Livision-rooms of the "Sons," and the "Tents" of the Rachabites—in public meetings on the streets and public squares, and in churches by night and by day, the great doctrines of Temperance were urged upon our fellow citizens, as also warnings against the vices, crimes and sufferings consequent upon intemperance. I need not remind you of the part you took in these discussions. You were absent from none of these meetings at which it was possible for you to be present, and no man said or did more in the cause than you, and few with more effect. If we had among the public speakers more eloquent tongues, there was none whose zeal and fervency exceeded yours—none to whom the public effect. If we had among the public speakers more eloquent tongues, there was none whose zeal and fervency exceeded yours—none to whom the public judgment awarded more praise. And I may add, that there was no one upon whom the curses of the rum seller were so fiercely hurled.

My own part in these proceedings was less prominent, as I have no pretensions as a public speaker—indeed, up to this time my observation in regard to

sideration of so important a matter in every part of the city. A notice was accordingly inserted in all the the city. A notice was accordingly inserted in all t papers, calling a general meeting at Temperan Hall on Monday, May 30, 1853.

Hall on Monday, May 80, 1853.

In pursuance of this call a large and enthusiastic meeting assembled—and after discussion, passed unanimously, the following resolution—viz:

1st. Resolved, That we rejoice in the opportunity which will be given to the voters of this city on Monday next, under the sanction of the corporation authorities, to express their opinions and wishes on a subject involving the best interests of this community.

ity. 2d. Resolved, That while we cherish the kindes 2d. Resolved, That while we cherish the kindest feelings personally, to those engaged in the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and whilst we are not disposed to indulge in the language of reproach towards them, we are thoroughly convinced, that, as members of a common community with them, and interested in everything which affects the welfare of individuals, of families, and the public at large, we have a right to be heard upon this subject, and to express our unqualified disapprobation of a practice which entails upon a community, to a greater extent than anything cise, pauperism, crime, and wretcheduess, and their corresponding burdens.

3d. Resolved, That we will attend the polls on Monday next, and will not only cast our individual votes in favor of "no license," but will use all our influence with our fellow citizens to induce them to vote in the same manner.

vote in the same manner.

4th. Resolved, that mass meetings be held as fol-

ows, viz: 1st. On this Monday evening, at the south front of he Patent Office.

2d. On Tuesday evening, at the West Market

2d. On Yuesday evening, as and House.

3d. On Wednesday evening, at Centre Market.

4th. On Thursday evening, at Engine House, Navy

Yard, and at West Market House.

5th. On Friday evening, at Island Hall.

6th. On Saturday evening, at East Capitol street.

5th. Resolved, That the reverend clergy of the city be, and they are, hereby, requested to bring the subject to the notice of the several congregations on Sabbath next, if not inconsistent with their other engagements. engagements.

6th. Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare, and cause to be published, an address to the voters of the city, upon the question of "license" or

no license."
In pursuance of these resolutions the following

voters of the city, upon the question of "license" or "no license,"

In pursuance of these resolutions the following committees were appointed, viz.:

Committee to prepare and publish an address to the voters: Rev. Dr. Peck, Rev. Dr. Junkin, Rev. D. E. Reese, A. F. Cunningham, A. Rothwell, and D. Radcliffe, Esq.

Comeral Committee: Peter Force, N. Callan, Rev. U. Ward, Rev. C. A. Davis, S. D. Finnell, W. H. Fitzhugh, Robert Rickets, M. H. Miller, George Savage, Edward Myers, A. Rothwell, Charles H. Lane, A. F. Cunningham, J. F. Ingle, J. A. Tait, W. Mogill, Dr. McKeon, Dr. Cole, Charles H. Gordon, Rev. J. Henry, P. M. Pearson, and P. B. Davis.

The foregoing proceedings were published in all the newspapers, and an able address was propared, presenting the question clearly, ably, and forcibly it was signed by the above Committee, and published in hand-bill form, and also in the newspapers, and circulated abundantly all over the city.

The public meetings were all also held as resolved upon—all of which were numerously attended; and our ablest, purest, and most eloquent men discussed the matter as a great moral question rhould be discussed. They called upon the friends of the license system to come forward and defend their cause; but they everywhere shrank from it. No man could be found bold enough to risk his reputation and standing in the community by publicly standing up in defence of such a cause. Many of them attended the meetings, but were silent, sullen, dogged. They ground their teeth, and vented their spleen by curses on "Savage," as the stirer up of the fuss, &c., &c.

On the "no license" side the discussion was enthusiastically, gallantly maintained. The writer of this attended nearly all the meetings and never can forget the spirit and bearing which were displayed throughout. There was nothing of political railing or sectarian rant. It was discussed purely as a matter in which every individual had a vital interest. The sole purpose was to break down a great moral evil, which was fixed upon us by law, ment of the result:
"REGISTER'S OFFICE, JUNE 7, 1853.

"The Commissioners of Election in the several eards of this city make the following returns of the

					o license question :" License.			No License	
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- 6	th	do						292	
7	th.	do						205	
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					95	91		1963	4.1
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Majority in favor of no license.....

there was no one upon whom the urease, of the runs solds were so fiercely harded.

The comparison of the ureas of the runs solds were so fiercely harded.

The comparison of the urease of the runs solds were so fiercely the present the same points and that class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and that class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and that class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and that class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and that class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and that class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and that class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and the class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and the class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and the class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and the class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and the class of the class of society in apparently easy circumstance, and the class of the class of

doing it. Three days after the enactment of this system came the vote of the city, which declared to the Mayor, by a majority of \$72 votes, that for the future it was their will that no licenses should be granted!! Within less than five months from that day, every license for the sale of intoxicating liquors would, by positive law, RUN OUT AND EXPIRE! And there would not remain within the timits of the city of Washington, a single establishment authorised to sell, to any person, a single establishment authorised to sell, to any person, a single drink of anything that could intonicate!! The temperance cause was trimphant, and the devoted band, that had labored so long and so faithfully in it, were jubilant and joyful.

But would the Mayor and Councils have the firmness and courage to stand up to what had been done, and carry out the declared will of the city! This was the question which arose and caused the friends of temperance to look anxiously to the 1st of November, 1853.

Some two months before that period arrived, I met doing it. Three days after the enactment of thi

was the question which arose and caused the friends of temperance to look anxiously to the 1st of November, 1853.

Some two months before that period arrived, I met the Mayir on the street—I mean the lamented and honored John W. Maury, and broached the subject to him. He said he had thought much and anxiously on the subject but had not made up his mind, and would be glad to talk the matter over at some early day when he had more leisure. The conversation was renewed soon after, when Mr. M. remarked that he thought it would not do to withhold the licenses. The resolutions which had been voted on, only promised, in the event of a vote against all licenses, that Congress should be appealed to, to amend the charter so as to authorise the Councils to pass laws prohibiting the sale of intoxicating fiquors, &c. He thought that to refuse, absolutely, all licenses, would create too great a shock, and produce a revulsion that would render things worse. He was not a total abstinence man, but decidedly temperate, anxious to repress drinking, suppress crime, and preserve order and tranquility. He assured me that he would do everything in his power to have the new system of licensing honestly and faithfully carried out, and would exert his whole power with the police to enforce its provisions, by the rigid prosecution of all violations of the laws. To these efforts of mine, said he to me, do you (meaning the Temperance organization) add, with like persevering faithfulness, rms rower of monat. Sussion, and I think the practice of using intoxicating liquors as a beverage may be restricted and suppressed, as much as it is possible by human efforts to do it—more than it would be by an absolute refusal of the licenses. Such, I have no doubt, were his sincere and honest convections.

I told him I was satisfied, he would find hims off mistaken, and that he could not execute the law as

stricted and suppressed, as much as it is possible by human efforts to do it—more than it would be by an absolute refusal of the licenses. Such, I have no doubt, were his sincere and honest convections.

I told him I was satisfied he would find himself mistaken, and that he could not execute the law as he supposed he could. In the first place, the law required that he should be satisfied that every applicant for a license possessed "legal responsibility and a good character." Now, if that meant anything, I thought it was that he should have such a character as would assure to travellers and sojourners that their effects would be safe in his house, that his accommodations were good, that there should be no drinking to intoxication, and no disorder on his premises; that his bur should be honestly closed during the entire Sunday, and every other day from 12 P. M. to 4 A. M., and that he would, under no circumstances, sell liquor to negroes or minors. These were the qualities necessary to make up, in the eye of the law, a good character, in a tavern-keeper, or shop-keeper. A man might have what is called in common parlance, a good character (i. e.) be reasonably punctual in the payment of debts, free from the gresser vices of lying, stealing, fighting, &c., and yet be destitute of the main qualities of a good and safe tavern-keeper. Now, had he the firmness and courage to investigate this matter of good character, as I thought it ought to be investigated, or had the six "reputable freeholders," who were required to certify to him, or even the majority of the white housekeepers on both sides of the square, who were to recommend it, or the Commissioner of Improvements, who was specially required to examine and certify to the same facts? I thought, (with due deference,) he would not. I believed that all these parties would find, when they came to try it, that it was a delicate matter to pass on the cranacters of a fellow-citizen, and that they would all do as their predecessors had done. If the required papers were ob

of 1853. I have the same opinions now.

I believe we never had a better or more conscientious Mayor than Mr. Maury was, or one more anxious to perform hi. duty. I know not what course he pursued, or what investigations he made, in granting the licenses, but I do know that they were all renewed; that is, I know the number in the city was not diminished, and I never heard of the refusal to grant one that was applied for. I know, too, that in every ward in the city, persons were selling ilguor without license, and in positive violation of the law; and this fact was known to the police magistrates of the wards, and to the police officers of the wards, as well as the suxiliary guard. These officers, in a general way, may be relied on to suppress a positive riot or outbreak, but they cannot be relied on to suppress illegal tippling, or to enforce the penalties of the law against it; and it is idle to expect it of them. The law prohibits them from drinking when on duty, yet many of them do drink; I won't say they are drunkarde, but they do drink and sometimes get drunk. The keepers of these shops are kind and civil to them, and I rather think they do not always pay for what they drink; they drink most commonly on inevitation; to them the shopkeepers are liberal, and they can afford to be so. For these favors, or some other reason, the police seldom disturb a shop or tavern-keeper, unless some riot or disorder takes places, upon the citizes. Yet it is for this especial business that they are obliged to notice. This thing of playing the apy on shops and taverns, they consider dolons and mean. They are ashamed to do it, and they throw off the business of informing against these places, upon the citizes. Yet it is for this especial business that they are obliged. I have the series of the septical business and pays them fixed salaries for that especial business. They are the hired spies and informers of the city, and as such they are to be wide wask, might and day. It is then sole business and duty to spy out every violation of the law, and to prosecute the violator to the utmost extremity of the law. They are faithful and honorable, just in preportion to the faithfulness with emitting the contract way and a fine of \$20 is imposed for view and the proposed t

question on the Mayor or any officer, who was to be voted for generally by the city. Two candidates for these offices were already in the field, on nominations from the two great parties of the city, and the voters were already committed to them, but in regard to the ward elections, which embraced the Councils, I was willing to go into it with them. This view was concurred in, and by request of the league I prepared an address to the city on that subject, which was printed and circulated generally, as you may well remember. But, as I apprehended, it was too late. Other questions had arisen, which took possession of the public mind, and upon which the excitement became so intense, as completely to overshadow the Temperance cause. In a few of the wards Temperance men were elected to the Councils—it was so in the ward in which I lived. But as a general thing, the whirlwind of politics which swept over the city completely overshadowed it. So great and exciting were these questions that for the time, they completely silenced Temperance. The Division-rooms and Tents were deserted. The members went after other gods. One by one the Divisions went down, and their camp-fires went out. Not so with the fires of intemperance; as the others went out, these raged with the greater fury, and the city literally reveiled in drunkenness; in the intensity of the feeling thus excited, many Temperance men forgot their vows, took again to their cups, and in their peaceful dwellings, which had been made happy by the victories of Temperance, was once again heard the voice of wailing and woe. The voice of the Temperance lecturer was no more heard in the public meetings of the people, and silence prevailed in the halls where they were wont to meet to cheer, and comfort each other in their good works and labours of love. From that day to this the cause has been dead. The two parties in the city have been alternately successful, each electing a Mayor. The first served out his term, and voluntarily retired, and since then he sickesed and die

And now, in view of this state of things, what shall be done? Shall the liquor traffic be left to run its course, to fill the city with vice and crime, and the habitations of its citizens with want, degradation and misery? Or shall it be resisted?

My own views and opinions remain unchanged, and the obligations and duties resulting from them, which rest upon me as a citizen, I cannot shake off. I must perform them, or incur the guilt of failing in duty to God and my fellow man. And these responsibilities rest upon all alike, who see the subject as we see it.

duty to God and my fellow man. And these responsibilities rest upon all alike, who see the subject as we see it.

I am firmly convinced that Alcohol, in its purest form, whether produced by distillation or fermentation, is a subtle poison, which cannot be taken into the stomach of a person in good health, without injury. That, naturally, we have a distaste for it; but that its habitual use will generate an unnatural appetite for it, which will increase and grow stronger by every drink that is taken, until the thirst for it becomes so strong that it cannot be controlled or restrained, and its victim is maddened and urged on and on, until the health of the body is destroyed, the moral sense corrupted, and reason dethroned, and in this state he sinks into a dishonored grave! Nor is this all. It is followed by loss of character and property, and by want and suffering to helpless women and children, which tongue cannot tell, or pen describe. And this every one may see, who will take the trouble to walk through the outskirts of the city, and visit the habitations of the poor.

Mayor Lenox described the matter truly when he said that "he was fully satisfied, not only from the returns of the police and the asylum, but from official observation and otherwise, that intemperance is the CAUSE almost exclusively, of all the disturbances and pauperism which afflict our community. Our laws should seek to restrain and not foster an evil of such frightful magnitude. The charter does not regard the retail of fluyors as a business from which a direct revenue is to be drawn, but as an evil to be restrained or prohibited by the exaction of licenses to restrained or prohibited by the exaction of licenses or such other means as are authorized by it." Yes it is true that the "Charter" does not look to "license to retail liquors" as a business from which a direct revenue is to be derived; but it looks at that business as an "evil to be restrained or prohibited" by all the means within the legal power of the councils. The Mayor might ha

in the logal power of the councils. The Mayor might the logal power of the councils. The Mayor might the logal power of the councils. The Mayor might the logal power of the councils. The Mayor might the logal power of the councils. The Mayor might have added that the provisions of the "charter" with the provision of the charter of the space in which it was applied for a considerable of the space in which it was applied for the space of the space in which it was applied for the space in which it was applied for the space in the space of the space in which it was applied for the space in the space of the space in which it was applied for the space in the space

and population. To build it up and improve it, and adapt these improvements to the public convenience, call for the exercise of skill and judgment; but in point of importance they are as nothing in comparison with this business of 'granting licenses for the retail of intoxicating liquors. The one has reference to the adorning and beautifying of the city, in which all take a just pride; the other involves the health, the moral and the public order and tranquility of the people, and woe to the city, where its Mayor and Councils give their main attention to the former to the neglect of the latter.

I say the Mayor and his predecessors have failed to keep in view the important principle that licenses to sell liquors were designed by law to restrict the traffic as an evil, and not to encourage it as a business or source of revenue.

as an evil, and not to encourage it as a business or source of revenue.

To illustrate my meaning, let us see what has been done on a single square: Take 7th street, from Pennsylvania avenue to the canal bridge; on the east side of the street we have ten tenements or places of business purposes. Out of ten tenements, are sold by wholesale; one tavern and five shops, where it is sold by retail, and three devoted to other business purposes. Out of ten tenements, seven of them are licensed to soll liquors, and six of them by retail.

Take the west of 9th street, from the avenue to the canal, and we have a similar state of things. Out of tenements, are licensed liquor shops, and one only devoted to other business. Now, is it possible that the public convenience requires this number of liquor shops in this email space? If not, how came the licenses to be granted? Who constituted the six freeholders, and the Commissioner of Improvements who certified for the taverns? and who came the licenses, to be granted? Who constituted the six freeholders, and the Commissioner of Improvements who certified for the taverns? and combination, compel the Mayor to grant the licenses, whether he considered it right to do so or not? Has he no judgment or discretion in the matter? If that he the true intent and meaning of the law, then, indeed, is the Mayor reduced to a expher, and the restrictions of the law a farce.

But it may be said that these two streets constitute the east and west fronts of the Centre Market, and these liquor shops are a necessary convenience to the market people, if not to the residents on the squares. But the law, to prevent all disorder and riot, declares expressly that fio intoxicating liquors shall be sold by retail in the market-house during market hours. And these liquor shops have a farce.

But the law, to prevent all disorder and riot, declares expressly that for intoxicating liquors shall be sold by